

not capable of finding out your dark and wicked designs?" And Judah, standing up to speak to the rest, said, "What shall we say to my Lord, or how can we clear ourselves? Behold, we are all your slaves; both we, and the man to whom the cup was found." But Joseph answered: "No! God forbid, that I should punish innocent with the guilty! the man who had the cup, I will make a slave; but as for you, ye may return to your father and families in peace. Then Judah, perceiving an inclination in Joseph's mind to shew mercy, took advantage of the opportunity; and drawing near to him, said, "My Lord, let thy servant speak a word in thy Lord's ear; and let not thine anger burn against thy servant; for thou art great and powerful, and Pharaoh! Thou didst compel us to bring down our younger brother down to Egypt, or else we must have perished for want of food. Now our father had two sons, whom he particularly delighted in."

this was one, whom he called Benjamin; and the other, whose name was Joseph, went out into the fields, and was torn to pieces of wild beasts: Therefore, he set the whole of his affection upon Benjamin, and refused for a long time to let him come with us to Egypt, lest any mischief should befall him. And, indeed, when at last we persuaded him to let him go, we thought his aged heart would break at parting from him. And if we should return without him, as soon as he sees we have not our brother Benjamin with us, he will surely die, for his life is bound up in the life of the lad! And besides this, thy servant became surety for the lad unto his father: And I said, I will bring him not back, and set him before thee, when let me bear the blame for ever. Therefore, O my Lord, take pity on our father, and keep me as a bond slave instead of Benjamin, and let him go with his brethren to his father; lest I see the evil which shall come upon my father!"

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